



香港工程師學會

THE HONG KONG INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS

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By mail and by fax at 2185 7845

2 April 2009

Clerk to Panel
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
Legislative Council Secretariat
3rd Floor, Citibank Tower
3 Garden Road, Central
Hong Kong

(Attn: Ms YUE Tin Po)

Dear Ms Yue,

**LegCo Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting –
Views on review on administration of Internet domain names in Hong Kong**

Thank you for your letter of 18 March 2009 inviting the Institution to put forth our views on the captioned subject.

With expert views received from our Division on Information Technology, we are pleased to provide herewith our views and suggestions for consideration of the Panel.

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Ir Peter Y WONG
President

Encl

Enclosure

**Legislative Council
Panel on Information Technology and Broadcasting
Views from the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
on administration of Internet domain names in Hong Kong**

1. The Hong Kong Institution of Engineers (HKIE) would like to provide hereunder our views on the administration of Internet domain names in Hong Kong with reference to the LegCo Paper No. CB(1)369/08-09(01).

General

2. The HKIE agrees in principle that the Internet naming system, including “Country Code Top Level Domains” (ccTLD), is a public resource and ccTLD “.hk” should be administered in the public interest of Hong Kong.

3. We support that the “.hk” domain names be administered by an independent, not-for-profit company with an appropriate institutional arrangement, to suit the future information society. We echo the idea that under the new institutional arrangements, the Hong Kong Internet Registration Corporation Limited (HKIRC) should be operated in an open and transparent mode, which includes the publishing of its policies and procedures relating to approval of domain names, its conditions of use of domain names, and policies and procedures for cancellation of registration for breach of condition of use.

Governance of the HKIRC

4. The HKIE supports the idea of a smaller board of directors (the Board) to focus on strategic and operational governance for efficient and effective management.

5. As for the new governing structure, we suggest that the Board should include representative(s) from IT professional bodies, like the HKIE members in the Information Discipline, in addition to those listed in paragraph 17 of the Paper, namely, professional corporate governance expertise with strong corporate management experience and expertise, experience in the business of administration of Internet domain names and/or in relevant technology, experience in accounting, finance, or auditing and experience in legal or regulatory affairs. We are of the view that our members can provide input for and on behalf of the profession as well as the public. Moreover, the IT professional practice and integrity can ensure professional views and public interest be reflected in the Board.

6. The HKIE also agrees to the establishment of a Consultative and Advisory Panel (CAP) that engages a broad set of stakeholders and professionals to advise the Board. We believe that IT professional could make unique contribution to the CAP in various dimensions such as information security, data protection and compliance practice.